RHYME AND REASON:

OR, A FRESH

STATING OF THE ARGUMENTS

AGAINST AN OPENING

THROUGH THE WALL OF QUEEN-SQUARE, WESTMINSTER.

BRITISH MUSEUM

2

RHYME AND REASON:

OR, A FRESH

STATING OF THE ARGUMENTS

AGAINST AN OPENING THROUGH THE

WALL OF QUEEN'S SQUARE,

WESTMINSTER.

Hic Murus aheneus esto. HOR.

By A KNIGHT. K.

WITH THE

ORIGINAL ARGUMENTS

At the Bottom of the Page, for the Information of the Inquisitive.

ADDRESSED TO

The JUSTICES and GENTRY at large, within the City and Liberties of WESTMINSTER, and County of MIDDLESEX; and also to the GOVERNORS of CHRIST'S HOSPITAL, LONDON.

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MDCCLXXX.

ADVERTISEMENT

TO THE

READER.

THE curious arguments, together with the modeſty, good nature, politeneſs, and elegancy of ſtile, diſplayed in the REASONS here exhibited to the public, had ſo wonderful an effect on the perſons, for whoſe information and *correction* they were originally printed and diſperſed, that they, one and all, looked upon them as unanſwerable; and began to perceive, what before had eſcaped them, that holding an

opinion

opinion of their own, was, in truth, a privilege to which they ought not to pretend, being the ſole prerogative of the illuſtrious Writer; who, at the ſame time that he profeſſes himſelf an humble votaty of St. *Peter*'s, could not forbear, like another Peter in the Tale of the Tub, to beſpatter the good people near him; and with great juſtice, ſince they dared to differ in opinion from him. They therefore conceiving, they had no other means of making an atonement for ſuch their preſumption, have thought themſelves bound to republiſh his unparalelled Reaſons, in a manner calculated to do juſtice to his ſingular abilities; and as his paſſion for ſeeing himſelf in print, is not ſmall, they do not doubt, he will highly approve of this early teſtimony of his merit, ſent out voluntarily by neighbours, among whom he had ſcarcely reſided a twelve month. Thus have his

efforts

efforts anſwered the good end, which he, doubtleſs propoſed to himſelf from them, that of rendering himſelf *as much* admired and beloved by thoſe among whom he now lives, *as* it is well known, he had always been in every other place of his reſidence.

RHYME

RHYME AND REASON, &c.

IN the year when our forces ſeiz'd hold of Gibraltar,
Was built a Great Wall, which 'twas wicked to alter;
Full thirty feet high was this rampart egregious,
Two bricks and an half were it's thickneſs---Prodigious!
It was built to diſſever (important affair)
The Blacks of Park ſtreet, from the Beaux of Queen ſquare.

In

A COPY of the ORIGINAL to which the VERSIFICATION refers.

REASONS againſt an OPENING *through the* WALL *that ſeparates* Queen Square *and* Park Street, Weſtminſter, *addreſſed to the Occupiers and Owners of Houſes and Ground in thoſe two Places, and in Dartmouth and Tothill Streets; particularly to the Traders and Shop-keepers in the two latter.*

QUEEN Square and Park Street, Weſtminſter, from the time of their being originally built, which was about the year 1704, were ſeparated by a wall, two bricks and a half

 thick,

In ſhort it was built for the uſe it ſupplied,
Which wit, leſs than mine, wou'd have never deſcry'd,
And ſhould therefore have ſtood, as ſound logic will ſhew,
Tho' the cauſe of it's building has ceas'd long ago;
But a wonderful Builder, whoſe name ſhall be nameleſs,
Has remov'd this vile neighbourhood, ſhabby and ſhameleſs,
Has built dwelling houſes ſurpaſſing Verſailles,
And changed the old wall for ſome ſmart iron rails.*

Which

* What pity it is, that notwithſtanding the author's topographical reſearches, he has not been able to inform the public, that Park ſtreet is the property and eſtate of Chriſt's Hoſpital, and how it came to be ſo; there is one circumſtance, however, that it is poſſible he may not be unacquainted with, ſince he is ſo well known to go to the *bottom* of every thing, and that is, that the hoſpital's tenant, the Builder, has actually run away with the Wall from Queen ſquare, by ſhoving the *foundation* of it into Park ſtreet; not that it is inſinuated there has been any felony in the caſe, or that the Knight has been acceſſary thereto, as ſuch, it having been done before either place could boaſt of having him for their Neighbour.

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thick, and thirty feet high. The houſes in the former of theſe places were at firſt inhabited by perſons of high rank and quality, and even of late years have been occupied by dignitaries in the church, general officers, and others whoſe circumſtances in life led them to ſeek for ſecurity and repoſe. Thoſe in Park ſtreet were an inferior kind of dwellings, but having lately been pulled down, the enterprizing and liberal ſpirit of the proprietor of the ground whereon

Which change, to my wonder and utter amazement,
Lets in ſun and air like a door or a caſement.
But mark his contrivance; his rails have no door,
So the place is as ſtrong as it had been before.
Thrice wonderful Builder! whoſe art cou'd contrive,
With air and with ſun-ſhine, to make us alive;

And

---

whereon they ſtood, has diſplayed itſelf in the erection of thirteen ſpacious houſes, of which there are ſeven that, for their convenient and elegant conſtruction, and other circumſtances ariſing from their ſituation, and the proſpect which they command, are ſcarcely to be equalled by any dwelling houſes in Europe.

Upon the completing theſe houſes the old wall, at the requeſt of the owner of them, and with the conſent of the inhabitants of Queen ſquare, was taken down and by him rebuilt to the height of five feet; and iron rails five feet high were ſet thereon, which accommodated the new buildings with air and ſun, without abating the ſecurity of either neighbourhood.

In a ſituation like this, remote from the noiſe, tumult, and hurry of trade and buſineſs, the inhabitants have long been happy in the poſſeſſion and enjoyment of that quiet,

and

And yet without magic or art ſupernatural,
Keep paſſengers out your choice pavements that ſpatter all,
And carriages too in your ears that wou'd clatter all.
Thus once did I ſee, on the ſhore lying wet,
A wonderful thing, Fiſhers call it a Net,

Being

---

and that ſafety from nocturnal depredations, which they, and ſome of them at a very dear rate, have purchaſed; but the ſatisfaction thence ariſing, has of late been greatly diſturbed, by the inſinuations and ſuggeſtions of a few perſons, that this neighbourhood will be much benefited by an intercommunity between the inhabitants of the above places, and that numberleſs advantages muſt reſult from the levelling that partition between the one and the other of them, which, in point of ſecurity and quiet, has long been deemed an ineſtimable benefit to both.

More particularly it is aſſerted, that the paſſage along *Tothill-Street*, as alſo that up *Dartmouth-Street*, in the way to *Weſtminſter-Bridge*, or to *Whitehall*, &c. are each an intolerable grievance; that a foot paſſage through *Queen-Square*, and ſo into *Park-Street*, would be a great, and a carriage way a greater, benefit to paſſengers; and ultimately, that the partition-wall above-mentioned, is a nuſance, and upon the known principles of public convenience, ought either totally or partially to be removed.

Theſe

Being only an angler, I cou'd not divine
How to fiſh with a thing ſo unlike to a line;
So, thirſty for knowledge, I aſk'd the poor ſouls
Why their nets were conſtructed ſo brimful of holes.
The Fiſhermen anſwered me—Can you gueſs what?
What I ne'er heard before, and yet ne'er have forgot,
" That the water might paſs, but the fiſhes might not."
My boy, ſtanding by me, his pen and ink took,
And wrote down the anſwer, to pop, in my book.

'Tis twenty long years ſince this horrid intrigue
Was firſt conjur'd up in the form of a league;
'Tis twenty good years (which is nearly nineteen,
Ere my knightly phyz in your pariſh was ſeen,
Ere frighted by robbers, who lurk'd for my riches,
I fled here ſo faſt that I dirty'd my breeches)

Theſe Reaſons, ſuch as they are, have at different times, within theſe laſt twenty years, been urged in favour of this injurious attempt, but without making the leaſt impreſſion

Since wrong-headed people, too ſhy of their labours,
Conceiv'd 'twould be well to be nearer their neighbours.
This all thinking people—that is myſelf—I
Held in utter contempt, and ſo let the thing lie.
But, graciouſly now, ſtooping down from my height,
I'll ſo *l'enour* * the brutes, as to prove to them quite,
That they are all fools, and I only am right.

To

* There ſeems to be a peculiar energy in the author's uſe of this word, in the original, that deſerves particular attention. It was, no doubt, intended to convey a proper ſenſe of his own modeſty, and his great reſpect for his neighbours; unhappily the vein of irony makes but an aukward appearance in the hands of one who is never conſcious of a laugh, unleſs it be a forced one, for want of that good humour which ever accompanies true and genuine ridicule. There are ſome indeed, who look upon the whole of the *original* as a ſpecies of *bullyiſm* and *blackgardiſm*, imported by our author from *Hockley in the Hole*, his old neighbourhood, with a view of recommending himſelf to the good graces of his new one. Be that as it may, if ſuch was his view, it muſt be confeſt, it has anſwered to admiration! But thoſe who are beſt acquainted with the author, and with the refinements of language, muſt be allowed to be the moſt competent judges how far this is a *Truiſm*.

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preſſion on the minds of thinking people; † and that they are now reſumed, is only to be accounted for by that known truth, that men are never ſo poſitive, as when they are in the wrong. *Hitherto they have been treated with the contempt due to fallacious arguments, they ſhall now be honoured with a refutation.* And

† About ten years ago, when the Commiſſioners for paving *Weſtminſter*, &c. were preparing a bill for inveſting them with addititional powers, by ſome-

To ſum up the thing in a manner that's grave;
I have Arguments *Six*, beſides one that I wave;
The wav'd one is this, and right good I believe,
But one which ſuch dunces would never conceive,
That making a paſſage through rails and through walls,
Muſt end in the ruin of PETER's and PAUL's;
Nay, that theſe very people would ſoon be ſo ſilly,
To pull down St. JAMES's to reach PICCADILLY.
Then come hither, St. PETER, come hither St. PAUL,
Come hither, St. JAMES, and protect this good wall,
For the firſt hole that's made in't ruins you all.

The

And firſt, with regard to nuſances, it may be obſerved, that in theſe times of improvement and melioration, every thing is a nuſance, every obſtruction intolerable, that men pleaſe to think ſo; and that upon thoſe principles of eaſe and convenience to which the Appeal is made, aided by the conſideration, that every deviation from a ſtrait line, encreaſes the length of a journey, it would be very eaſy to prove that the Cathedral of St. *Paul*, the Abbey of *Weſtminſter*,

ſome ſecret management, a clauſe was preſented to them, enabling them to open a way through the wall in queſtion; in ſhort to do the very act now attempted: but, upon a repreſentation of a few only of the miſchiefs herein enumerated, the Commiſſioners declared againſt a proceeding ſo violent and injurious to the neighbourhood, and rejected the clauſe.

The only good reaſon to favour the caſe,
Is to get a ſhort cut from QUEEN SQUARE to PARK PLACE.
Now this I conceive will be quite overthrown,
As ſoon as my *half dozen* contras are known.

First

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minſter, nay even the royal palace of St. *James*'s, are nuſances.

But waving this argument, and taking matters as we find them, it is contended on the other ſide, firſt, that the advantages which paſſengers will receive, will be leſs than the injury the inhabitants will ſuffer by this innovation; and ſecondly, that were the former greater in their own nature, than they poſſibly can be, the conſideration of the latter ought, in law, reaſon, and juſtice, to preponderate: for,

With reſpect to paſſengers on foot from *Queen Square*, the advantage to them can be but ſmall, it being ſurely no deplorable alternative, which gives them an option either to go up *Dartmouth Street*, and ſo onward through *Queen Street*, or through the pleaſant park of St. *James*'s, to *Story*'s Gate; and as to carriages, the difference between the way now open, and the ſhort cut propoſed, is leſs than two minutes drive.

On

Firſt, the wear and the tear ofthe ſtones in the ſtreet,
More precious by half, than the paſſengers feet;
The ſcheme therefore, plainly, muſt lead to our ruin,
Since paving is twice as expenſive as ſhoeing. *
Then let this deſign be relinquiſhed and die,
Or the ſtones in the pavement will hollow out, Fie!
Beſides, howſoe'er you may brag and may ſwear it,
I know very well that your pockets won't bear it.

* There is one conſideration of great weight, and exactly of the ſame nature with this, which our author, contrary to his uſual accuracy, has omitted; his eminent candour would have led him to ſtate it in balance againſt the former, had he thought of it. It is this; at preſent whoever comes into the ſquare in a carriage, or on foot, goes over the pavement twice, being obliged to turn back, to get out; whereas if a paſſage was made through, the majority would only go over it once. Q. Whether the acceſſion of new paſſengers would over-balance this circumſtance, ſuppoſing *the gallows* to ſtay where it is?

On the other hand, the injuries which the inhabitants of *Queen Square* and *Park Street* muſt ſuſtain, either from a foot or a carriage way, will be theſe that follow:

1. The deſtruction of the pavement, to the repair whereof the appropriated fund is even now ſcarcely adequate.

2. The

2. If you open a way to our ſnug little ſquare,
The green carts and dung carts will quickly be there.
What though it be lock'd, and the keys kept by you,
They will come, in mere ſpight, tho' ſure not to get thro';
Though ſure to be balk'd, yet they always will try it,
So you, my good people, will never be quiet.

3. The

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2. The opening a way not only for carriages laden with greens and other commodities, for *Weſtminſter*, *St. James's*, and *Covent Garden* markets, and with filth of all kinds, for which ſome parts of *Weſtminſter* are the common receptacle; but for coaches, which, in thoſe ſeaſons of the year, when *Ranelagh-Houſe* is frequented, are known to encreaſe the paſſage through ſome ſtreets of *Weſtminſter* to ſuch a degree, that the inhabitants thereof are for many hours in the night kept waking in their beds. * And the ſame miſchief muſt follow to the dwellers in *Queen Square* and *Park-ſtreet*, from a carriage way along theſe two places.

* A very late incident is a proof of the former part of this aſſertion: in the month of *October* in the laſt year, and while a ſewer was making in *Tothill-ſtreet*, with the conſent of the owner of the eſtate, the bar in *Carteret-ſtreet* was permitted to remain open for about a fortnight; during which time the paſſage of green carts from *Fulham*, *Batterſea*, *Chelſea*, and other places abounding in garden grounds, was ſo great, that the inhabitants of *Park-ſtreet* were prevented from ſleeping for the greater part of the night.

3. The op'ning a way will let in all the crew,
That drove frighted Juſtice from *Hatton* to you.
My fears all renew'd, I ſhould leave, helter ſkelter,
The only retreat where I hop'd for a ſhelter.
'Twould unſtring all my nerves, it would ſhake, it would ſicken 'em,
And drive me to any place elſe—but to *Twickenham*.
And could you ſo dire a misfortue ſuſtain,
Having once had me with you, to loſe me again?
My fancy returns to that horrible night,
When my rooms all re-echo'd with ſhrieks of affright;
Myſelf without ſhirt, without piſtol or light!
The bell at the window announc'd the attack,
The dog bark'd below, the maid ſet up her clack;
Cats ſqual'd, children ſqueal'd, women ſcream'd with diſmay,
I hallow'd out Watchman!—The thieves run away.

But

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3. The laying open the two places will make the way common to thoſe diſorderly perſons who nightly infeſt and commit outrages in the ſtreets, and will facilitate their eſcape in caſe of a purſuit.

But a night ſo tremendous again ſhall I paſs,
To humour the fancy of blockhead or aſs!
No; periſh the thought—Break the wall, and I'll mend it;
Like the brave Spartan chief, I will die to defend it.
Or block it up firmly, completely, and well,
With the *Quartos* poor *P——ne* * is not able to ſell.

4. But the thing of all things, which this project moſt ſpoils, is,
That *Weſtminſter* now is what once was St. *Giles*'s.
To open the ſquare will be now to undo it,
For tag-rag and bob-tail will find the way through it.
Beſides,

* A Bookſeller of great eminence in his profeſſion, juſtly and generally eſteemed; but who, it is feared, has been coaxed and *reaſoned* by our Author into a very unprofitable undertaking.

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4. To the wiſdom of thoſe who, to prevent a common paſſage along *Park-ſtreet* and *Queen-ſquare*, conſtructed a wall of ſeparation between them, it is in a great meaſure owing that the inhabitants of both are able to ſleep in ſecurity. But there are circumſtances, that an age ago could not be foreſeen, which nevertheleſs loudly call on the attention of

Beſides, I perceive, by diſcernment moſt ſubtle,
That *Tyburn* will trot to the paſtures of *Tothill*.

Now

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of us of the preſent generation, and ſuggeſt reaſons, the moſt cogent for an oppoſition to every attempt to remove this venerable barrier, and lay the two places in common. It is notorious, that the late rapid demolition of low-rented houſes in the pariſh of St. *Giles*, has occaſioned an almoſt total migration of the ancient inhabitants of that ſuburb, to the interior parts of *Weſtminſter*; and this diſaſtrous event is very likely ſtill farther to affect the ſtate and condition of that city; for be it known, that ſtrenuous endeavours have for ſome years paſt been making, to remove the place of execution of malefactors from *Tyburn* to ſome ſituation remote from that neigbourhood, now become the reſidence of perſons of high rank. Many places have been thought of for the purpoſe, and among others *Tothill-fields*, *Weſtminſter*. Now ſhould that place be fixed on, a gallows erected there, and the opening in queſtion be made, the probable order of the proceſſion, to render it public, would be through *George-ſtreet*, down *Princes-ſtreet*, and along *Tothill-ſtreet*; but the numerous foot-paſſengers that uſually attend theſe awful ſolemnities, merely as a holiday ſpectacle, would, to make a ſhort cut of it, prefer going along *Queen-ſtreet*, through *Park-ſtreet* and *Queen-ſquare*, down to *Petty France*, and by ſome of the alleys there,

Now this you muſt feel, if your minds are not callous;
Would you live in the ſhorteſt high road to the gallows?

5. When tag-rag and bob-tail have found the way thro',
Which I now take for granted they ſurely will do,
The value of houſes directly muſt fall,
And the place now ſo priz'd, be worth nothing at all:
'Twill ſtrait be deſerted by people of rank,
For which you will only yourſelves have to thank.

Shabby.

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into *Tothill-fields*. In that caſe, and when this reſpectable neigbourhood ſhall become the reſort of loitering vagabonds, and be reduced to the condition of the vileſt ſuburb about town, how will the inhabitants thereof regret their want of foreſight, how wiſh the wall for ever cloſed up, and in vain ſeek for that ſecurity and repoſe, which they had raſhly exchanged for a convenienience little more than imaginary, and but trifling if real!

5. From the time that this project ſhall take effect, as well *Park-ſtreet* as *Queen-ſquare*, will ceaſe to be a place fit for the habitation of perſons of condition; and of courſe the value of houſes there will be reduced. In ſhort, the way

Shabby trade in your ſtreet will erect it's vile banners,
And your rooms change to ſhops, for cooks, chandlers, and tanners.

6. But what is moſt ſtrange, yet moſt certainly true,
The very ſame thing which brings ruin on you,
Will, by contrary means, ruin *Dartmouth-ſtreet* too.
The arrival of trade undoes you for the firſt,
And there it's departure will no leſs be curs'd;

The

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way through both will become a common ſtreet, and the lower apartments in the houſes in the ſtreet leading to the latter, and alſo on the ſouth ſide thereof, will be converted into ſhops, for the exerciſe of mean, and, probably, noxious trades and buſineſſes.

6. The thus diverting the ancient and accuſtomed channel of trade from other parts of the city, and depriving the inhabitants, particularly of *Dartmouth-Street* and of *Tothill-Street*, of the benefits thence ariſing, will reduce the value of eſtates, and eventually affect the intereſts of two reſpectable and powerful bodies, *viz.* the dean and chapter of *Weſtminſter* and the governors of *Chriſt's Hoſpital*, who, in their corporate capacities,

are

The departure of Quality makes your diſtreſs,
It's arrival will move them to ſorrow no leſs.

Thus the very ſame thing, by my new mode of reaſon,
Works contrary ends, at the very ſame ſeaſon;
And when you, fine folks, have the neighbourhood left,
Say, how will you bear it, of quiet bereft?
In one word categorical, anſwer, Sir JOHN,
How will you live in it when once you are gone!
But, beſides the effects of this horrible tax,
Conſider the law ſuits you'll bring on your backs.

At

---

are ſeverally land-owners, the former to a very great extent, in the parts of *Weſtminſter* moſt likely to be injured by this project: In ſhort, it will in effect be doing that which in ordinary caſes cannot be done, but under the writ of *Ad quod dammum*; nor in extraordinary, as this undoubtedly is, without the ſanction of parliament.

In order to evade the force of theſe objections it has been ſaid, that nothing more than a foot-way through the wall is deſired. In anſwer to which pretence, for,

it

At all this ſound ſenſe it is eaſy to cavil,
To ſay that no way ſhall be open to travel;
That a ſnug little door, like the holes in the Netting,
The neighbourhood only ſhall let out and let in.
But locks may be open'd, and keys may be ſtole,
Or rag-tag and bob-tail creep through the key-hole.
Beſides, a ſmall door, by it's natural growth,
Will quickly admit coach or wagon, or both;
And this I am ready to ſay upon oath.

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it is nothing better, it may be obſerved, that even this favour was thought too much to be aſked, till ſome in the neighbourhood were indulged by lowering the wall from thirty to five feet high; which was no ſooner done, than a few that had poſſeſſions in and about *Petty France*, and wanted an *inviting* approach to them, began to cry out on the *Abſurdity!* truly, of any wall at all. From which ſpecimen of candid and curious reaſoning it may fairly be preſumed, that as the former conceſſion became a ground for this requeſt of a foot-way, ſo would a compliance in this latter inſtance lead to the demand of a carriage-way; founded on this reaſon, that thoſe who keep carriages have a better claim to an indulgence of this ſort than foot-paſſengers.

Ye neighbours, unanimous, had you but known
Each other's true intereſt, as well as your own;
Had ye only reflected, that though you all want it,
Ye ſtrongly * contend, with Sir JOHN, not to grant it:
You ne'er would have thought of a plan for the doing,
What will comfort each houſe, but the whole place muſt ruin. †

All

* Moſt of the inhabitants in truth are for it, tho' it is ſtated in the reaſons generally, that the inhabitants of *Queen-ſquare* and *Park-ſtreet* contend againſt it.

† It is hoped that no perſon will rack his brains to find the meaning of this—it has none, it is only a copy of the great Original—of which the ſhort ſketch is this, the Knight in a prolix paper, addreſſes the inhabitants of *Queen-ſquare*, &c. to perſwade them againſt doing what, as he ſtates below, they already contend not to have done; if ſo, why his printed reaſons? But genius cannot act like common clay.

But ſhould the Reaſons above adduced, fail of their effect, and were it poſſible to prove, that the advantages of an opening would be greater than any one can pretend they are, the inhabitants of *Queen-ſquare* and *Park-ſtreet* contend, that the benefits of a quiet, a commodious, and a ſecure ſituation are their own in poſſeſſion, and that they and their predeceſſors have experienced and enjoyed them, with-

All this, I conceive, is moſt ſound and good ſenſe,
And if you oppoſe it through malice prepenſe,
You're running your heads into certain deſtruction,
As plainly is ſhown by my *obvious deduction.*

And

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without interruption, for a ſeries of years, even from the time that houſes were firſt erected thereon reſpectively; and ſhall they now, they aſk, be deprived of them, and driven, as ſome of them ſay they muſt, to ſeek new habitations? they wiſh for no more than to remain in the condition in which they were found by the projectors of this innovation, who can have nothing to complain of but a refuſal of what they had no right to aſk, and which they would never have thought of aſking, had they weighed the happineſs of their neighbours againſt their own convenience, or it may be intereſt, which, after all, it is more than ſuſpected, is the latent motive to this inſidious attempt.

From theſe premiſes it is conceived, that the following is a rational and moſt obvious deduction, *viz.* that ſhould the attempt of an opening through the wall ſucceed, the two neighbourhoods of *Queen-ſquare* and *Park-ſtreet* muſt inevitably be ruined.

QUEEN-SQUARE,
20th *Dec.* 1779.

J. H.

And if for ſuch ſchemes you will venture your guineas,
You are blockheads, and aſſes, and puppies, and ninnies.
And if you dare laugh at my reaſonings and talkings,
Know I live* in *Queen-ſquare*, and my name is J—— H——

* Some of the old inhabitants in *Queen-ſquare* do not ſcruple to aſſert, that the knight no more lives *in Queen-ſquare*, than he could be ſaid to live in *Park-ſtreet*, by occupying a houſe in *Dartmouth-ſtreet*; and they cannot help being a little concerned, that one who ſeems to have beſtowed ſo much time and pains, to collect and perpetuate the remembrance of ſuch an important anecdote, as the height and thickneſs, &c. of a wall, which no longer exiſts, ſhould not have been able to find out where he actually lives himſelf; and therefore, that he may no longer be in the dark in that reſpect, they charitably take this opportunity to inform him, that the place he lives in, is properly called *White Hart-ſtreet*, and went by that name many years after *Queen-ſquare* was built; whence they are afraid there is too much reaſon to conclude, that the knight has no more to do with *Queen-ſquare*, after all the trouble he has given himſelf and others about it, than any common paſſenger that croſſes it to get into the Park.

A SHORT

A
SHORT RECAPITULATION
OF THE
KNIGHT'S ARGUMENTS,
WITH A FEW OBSERVATIONS.

IT is aſſerted, you may as well pull down *St. Peter's*, *St. Paul's*, and *even St. James's*, as make a door in a partition wall—but this argument the author generouſly waves.

1. It is objected, that opening a way through the ſquare, will wear out the pavement, which the preſent fund will hardly ſupport—and which fund you (people of rank and condition) will not be able to enlarge. Your convenience is not worth conſideration.

2. It is taken for granted, that you mean to open a public carriage way—a thing not intended.

3. Making the ſquare a thoroughfare, will bring thieves to it—who never infeſt blind ſtreets, but only public thoroughfares where moſt paſſengers come.

N. B. The Knight dreads a thief like the plague; the Epiſode in the text about the houſe-breakers is matter of fact.

4. It is complained that *Weſtminſter* is a very blackguard part of the town, and will be more ſo, therefore making the ſquare a thoroughfare, will let low people walk through it—which is a dreadful calamity to people of Rank.

N. B. All theſe arguments reſt on the ſuppoſition of the way being intended for a public one, which unfortunately is falſe, but the logic is not the worſe for that.

5. If you let common people walk through, all genteel people will leave the houſes—as they always forſake all ſtreets which low people can go through. Their places will be ſupplied by ſhops of mean and offenſive trades.—Q. Who is it that is to leave the houſes? The preſent inhabitants? If ſo, how will they be annoyed by the ſhops? As to the rents, poſſibly honeſt tradeſmen may pay as well as fine folks, if they can afford to take ſuch fine houſes.

6. Though the houſes being occupied by tradeſmen, will ruin *Queen-ſquare*, *Dartmouth-ſtreet*, &c. will equally be ruined

ruined, by the removal of the channel of trade from them. —Though *Dartmouth-ſtreet*, being rendered more quiet, will be fit for the reception of the very people who will have left *Queen-ſquare*; and, *O mirum!* you will be ſued by the landlords for Damages.

Tothill-ſtreet is mentioned with *Dartmouth-ſtreeet* in this argument—but Q. how could *Tothill-ſtreet* be affected? It will always be as it is, the neareſt way from the *Abbey* to *Petty France*, &c.

To ſum up all, it is roundly aſſerted, that it is impoſſible to make a private way, which will not become a public one; or a foot door, which will not become a carriage way; and that the Inhabitants of *Queen-ſquare* and *Park-ſtreet*, to whom the arguments are addreſſed, contend againſt the alteration—which, if true, would make the arguments unneceſſary; but which, they beg leave totally to deny.

In ſhort, the plain fact is this:

Several reſpectable families in *Queen-ſquare* and *Park-ſtreet*, having experienced in their frequent viſits with each other, great inconveniences for want of a communication through the wall, propoſed making, at their own expence, an iron gate, with a lock and keys thereto, for the uſe of themſelves and others in the ſame predicament, in order to avoid the dirty and diſagreeable round of the broadway,

as

as alſo the trouble and parade of uſing their own carriages upon all occaſions, or the trouble and expence of hiring a coach or a chair, to convey them within ſo ſmall a diſtance, as from one to twenty or thirty yards of each other, a propoſition ſo reaſonable in itſelf, they could never have imagined would meet with any the leaſt oppoſition; but the Knight is of ſo unſociable a diſpoſition, that he neither viſits, nor is viſited: no wonder, therefore, he ſhould take ſuch an occaſion to vent his SPLEEN againſt his neighbours, for attempting a convenience, he had no inclination to partake of himſelf; and which has forced from them, THIS GENTLE RETORT, in their own vindication, and as a means of ſuggeſting to him, the expediency of his having more wit and diſcretion for the future, than to fling ſtones of abuſe ſo near home, leaſt they chance to recoil; with an additional ſhower, on his own head.

FINIS.